

REMARKS

This paper is an amendment accompanying a request for continued examination (RCE). It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits be re-opened.

Although Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-30 are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons as set forth more fully in the record, Applicant has amended some claims to expedite prosecution and/or to further clarify the subject matter therein. However, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue, without prejudice in a continuing and/or related application, subject matter that has been amended and/or cancelled.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites “transmitting a global clock to each master device of the plurality of master devices, wherein each master device of the plurality of master devices operates according to a respective and unique local clock that is independent of said global clock, wherein a slave device wirelessly communicates with a first master device of the plurality of master devices by synchronizing with the respective local clock of said first master device; determining, in each master device, a respective offset between said global clock and said respective local clock, wherein the respective offsets are different from each other; and transmitting said respective offset of said first master device of the plurality of master devices to a second master device of the plurality of master devices to facilitate a wireless handoff of said slave device from said first master device to said second master device.”

Independent claim 10, as amended, recites “transmitting a global clock to each master device of the plurality of master devices; transmitting, to each master device, a respective and unique offset; generating, in each master device, a respective local clock using said respective offset and said global clock, wherein said respective local clock is used by a first master device of the plurality of master devices to communicate with a slave device; and transmitting said respective offset of said first master device to a second master device of the plurality of master devices to facilitate a wireless handoff of said slave device from said first master device to said second master device.”

Independent claim 15, as amended, recites “a global clock transmitting, over a first communication pathway, a global clock signal to each master device of a plurality of master devices; and each master device of said plurality of master devices comprising a respective local clock generator that generates a respective and unique local clock and a respective memory that stores a respective offset, wherein each master device determines said respective offset from said global clock and said respective local clock, wherein a first master device of said plurality of master devices transmits, over a second communication pathway, its respective offset to a second master device of said plurality of master devices to facilitate a wireless handoff of a slave device from said first master device to said second master device, wherein said slave device is synchronized with said respective local clock of said first master device and wherein said respective offset of said first master device is used by said second master device to communicate with said slave device.”

Independent claim 23, as amended, recites “a global clock transmitting, over a first communication pathway, a global clock signal to each master device of a plurality of master devices; an offset control transmitting, over a second communication pathway, a respective and unique offset signal to each master device, wherein each master device comprises a respective local clock generator that generates a respective local clock signal as a function of said respective offset signal and said global clock signal, wherein said respective local clock signal of a first master device of said plurality of master devices is used by said first master device to synchronize wireless communication with a slave device, and wherein said respective offset signal of said first master device is transmitted to a second master device of said plurality of master devices to facilitate a wireless handoff of said slave device from said first master device to said second master device.”

In view of at least the amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of references as asserted in the Office Action does not address each and every element as set forth in independent claims 1, 10, 15 and 23.

U.S. Application No. 09/935,082, filed August 21, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 15975US01

Amendment dated October 1, 2009

Accompanying Request for Continued Examination filed October 1, 2009

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-34 are in condition for allowance.

Applicant does not necessarily agree or disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the documents made of record, either alone or in combination, or the Examiner's characterization of recited claim elements. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to argue the characterization of the documents of record, either alone or in combination, to argue what is allegedly well known, allegedly obvious or allegedly disclosed, or the characterization of the recited claim elements should that need arise in the future.

With respect to the present application, Applicant hereby rescinds any disclaimer of claim scope made in the parent application or any predecessor or related application. The Examiner is advised that any previous disclaimer of claim scope, if any, and the alleged prior art that it was made to allegedly avoid, may need to be revisited. Nor should a disclaimer of claim scope, if any, in the present application be read back into any predecessor or related application.

In view of at least the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should anything remain in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, to charge any fee deficiencies or to credit any overpayments to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: October 1, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael T. Cruz/

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